

Private Journal
Katyebue Sound to
San Francisco

September 2nd to
Oct. 2nd 1881

E. W. Nelson

3/2
 10.00
 14.37

2 sack flour 3/2 ✓
 1 fat. drill 1.25 ✓
 Underclothing 3.36 (Private)
 2 Boots = 10.00
 17.75

Smith of
 = 14.37
 Private of
 3.38

Paid in full
 Oct 11/10
 at Sea

Note -
 Ancient Egyptian Customs
 for some of the women to wear their
 so cut that their right breasts
 were covered (see B.C. & E. Ebers
 Egyptian Princess) This is something
 like the custom among the Chinese
 women of exposing this breast

R. King Agent

~~1/2 sack flour
 1/2 sack flour
 1/2 sack flour
 1/2 sack flour
 1/2 sack flour
 1/2 sack flour~~

Notes—
In ancient Egypt Children
inherited rank from their father only—i.e.
a nobleman's children by a slave ranked
equal with his legitimate children
by a freewoman his wives as was
the case in ancient Persia.

In Persia the sacrifices of flesh
were offered upon the altar &
the gods were supposed to take
its essence or spirit and the
flesh was afterwards divided
among the priests and people.



Belong

Eckschott Bay

September 24

Went on shore in the morning
when the tide was out so I
could find fossil bones along
the flat bordering the cliff.
We found the water had
receded so far that we came
aground some 2 miles from
shore that to walk in over the
mud flat. At the point we
came ashore were a lot of
drift wood sticks erected into
frames for drying fish &
other traces of a summer camp
but it has not been used this
year. Along the beach just
below high tide line I found
various fossil bones of the
mammoth - Musk Ox & Skunk
and fossil Bison beside others.
All these bones lay exposed
on the surface whenever the
bottom was firm enough to
prevent their sinking from

sight. The most careful
scrutiny along some 3 miles
of crumbling cliff front
failed to show the slightest
evidence of any of the fossils having
come from there - but from their
broken character and being
strawed along here so regularly
it is almost certain that they
are brought down in ice
from the Buckland River &
dropped along here - thus
effecting a slow but constant
deposit of animal remains
of a former age with drift logs
and ^{other} vegetable of today which
may in time become fossilized
and afford ground for false
reasoning. Bones of recent
animals such as the Beluga
different kinds of seals -
and sometimes walrus
are also ~~not~~ deposited here
at present as a strange

medley may result and these
animals be thought contemporaneous
with the much older - Bison &
mammoth here -

Forming a thin overlying
stratum of from a few inches
to a couple of feet on the
upper surface of the ice deposit
here & extending in many
places for some distance
along the exposed section was
a layer of fine gravelly sand
sometimes coarser & the grains
well worn in many cases though
in others the fragments were
angular.

Along the foot of the cliff could
be seen in a number of
places beds of ^{small} angular fragments
of lava evidently washed out
from parts of the same bed
just described. This same
superincumbent layer of sand
& gravel was seen in several

places along the entire length
of the ice cliff. This ice
appears to have a granular
whitish structure for
some depth into its
exposed surface. - On top of
the cliff the surface layer
of ice is mixed with dead
enclosures frozen in for a few
inches. In addition to the
luxuriant growth of grass
on the surface of the hill &
its slope sometimes only a
foot from the ice there
was a thrifty & flourishing
growth of alders in every
ravine & gully. These
alders sometimes measured
6 inches at their butt
from 10 to 15 or more feet
high. With this growth well
8 to 10 ft high. In many
places the growth of these
bushes was so dense

that it was next to impossible
to force a way through them.

Large flocks of *Tringa americana*
were the only sandpipers
seen. Pintail ducks
common. Also white-fronted
and Hutchins geese common.
Several Umia loads of
natives were off during the
day and brought a few ducks
on. Before we returned on
board they had all gone but
the Capt. had bought a specimen
of *Colaptes auratus hudsonicus* from
them which had been taken
at the mouth of the Buckland R.

Sept, 9th

In the morning at 5.30 a.m. I
took the cutter & went in to
the native camp to the left
of the main ice cliffs where
a sandy spit makes out.

The natives told Capt. W. that they were expecting to seine for fish there last night and I wished to secure some if possible. I found ~~a~~ ~~half dozen~~ 4 Umaks resting on edge viewing as Camp here - The people saw us coming & we all up & by promising a little tobacco they got out their seine (a fine meshed seal skin one) & drew it a half dozen times with poor success owing to the tide being on the ebb; however, I obtained a number of Tom Cods - small flounders, 2 species of white fish - a smelt & a skulpin. The seine is about 25 yds or 28 long with the ends spread by 12 masts sticks & the sinkers of stone & floats of wood - the shore end

is held by a couple then several poles lashed together the required length are pushed out with the outer end of net made fast to the end of this long boomlike pole. A long line extending to the outer end of net is held by 2 or 3 persons who draw the net slowly along at the same time a similar line is fast to the middle of the boom & is used to keep the boom straight and draw it along - 2 or 3 men hold the boom well pushed out to keep the net in place and the whole party advance slowly for a time and then the pole is withdrawn & the net is hauled ashore by swinging the outer end in shore. The sketch on the opposite page will give an idea of how it is done.

Looking about in some
 Kyaks at the camp I found
 a stick image in one of
 them - This image was
 hung from the top just



Seeming in each hole
 behind the man hole and
 had the following shape
 & appearance - It was
 about 7 or 8 inches long &
 3 inches in diameter

Profile view



front view



The teeth &
 tucks are from
 walrus teeth
 As shown on

the opposite page the length
 abdomen was occupied by
 a slit armed along each
 side by teeth which enclosed
 a rough Beluga-like image
 I tried to buy this image but
 the owner said if he sold
 it he would die - And
 he carried it into his
 tent & concealed it very
 soon after I found it.

After a short stay here
 I returned to the ship &
 we got under way to go to
 the north side of the bay when
 we suddenly brought up
 on a mud bank within a
 few hundred yards and were

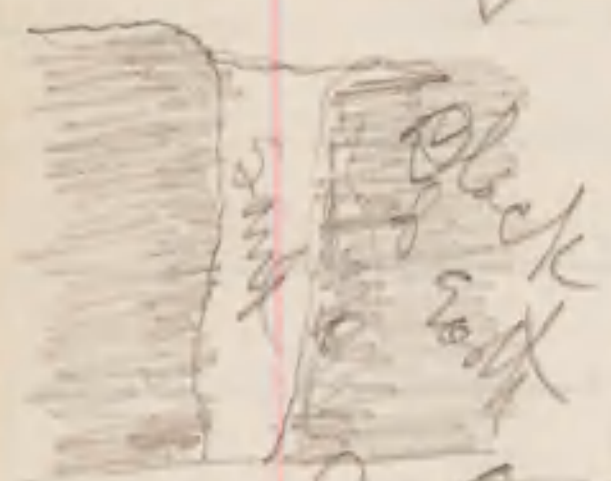
forced to lay him till in
the afternoon when we
got off on the high tide and
steamed up behind the
point of Choris Peninsula
opposite Chamisso Is. &
Alchorno -

September 10th
Prof. Dr. & I took the cutter
and took a cruise
around the north shore
of the bay spending all
day at it.

We found the hills along
Choris peninsula made up
of talcose schist; then extending
along almost the entire north
side of ~~the~~ Eschscholtz Bay, ran
an alluvial deposit consisting
of black mould ending in a
bluff 30 to 40 feet high for
several miles adjoining the
Choris Peninsula. Near
the summit of this bluff

where it was exposed by the
crumbling of the face of the bluff
were found & scattered along
numerous small boulders
of ice varying in size from
a yard in length & height to
30 yds long & 2 or 3 yds
deep (as exposed to view) these
masses of ice were formed
irregularly, sometimes extending
down like roots & nearly
always roughly wedge shaped
at lower ends. These masses
generally cut through the
strata of the bluff showing
they were of recent formation
and probably produced by the
infiltrating of the water from
the surface into crevices
& depressions in the ground.
At one place where the
bluff had been cut by a stream
of water in a narrow channel
from summit to base the

water had after work spilled
in the cut between the black
walls with white sand
showing in sharp contrast



✓ We found along
the surface of the
bluff at top a
stratum of good
compact peat from
one to two feet thick for
a considerable distance
From this level alluvial
deposit of black earth extended
a series of white sand bluffs
rising in an undulating series
one after the other around
nearly the entire remainder
of the north side of the bay.
These bluffs arose from 50 to
150 feet high and their south
slopes facing the water
were nearly covered with
alders & willows. Some
braver & rawer sticks were

found in a cut in the alluvial
deposit previously described.
Some ducks, geese & loons
were seen today.

Toward eve. we started
back to the vessel and
reached it about 11 P.M. after
a hard fight against wind
& tide. The day gave fair promise
early in the morning but
later dull gray clouds
shut in from the north & it
became gloomy & cold &
cold misty showery fall in the
evening.

September 11th

The Captain gave the
Sailors a holiday and we
laid at anchor in the same
place as yesterday until
evening when we got
under way & steamed up &
anchored just off Elephant Pt.

again. As we came
up the bay we saw the
low mts just beyond
the mouth of the Buckland
R. covered on their summits
by a cap of snow which
fell last night - this being
the first snow of the season.

Sept 15th - Off Elephant Pt.
Early in a.m. Prof. M. went
ashore to examine the coast
from the sand spit at east
of the ice cliffs of Elephant Pt.
along towards Buckland R.
He returned just after
midday & reports that he
saw several other bear
nests (4) exposed by the coming
bluff facing the shore.
He also found the ice extending
around the shore of the
bay nearly to the Buckland
R. mouth.

Capt. H. was on shore
opposite our anchorage
Saw great numbers of Ptarmigan
and on the 10th inst. we
saw many on the other
side of the bay. Their presence
here must account for
the abundance of Gyrfalcons.
The Ptarmigan are preparing
to go farther south.

About 1.30 P.M. we were
under way & steamed along
the coast to the mouth of the
Kuguk River just east
of Cap Drecit just off
which we came to anchor
in the eve at dark.
Just as we came opposite
the low bluff at the mouth
of the River a signal fire was
lit by some natives on shore.
& soon after we came to anchor.
A man came off in a kayak &
we interviewed him.

He told us that there were
plenty of mammoth bones
up the Kuguruk river
especially up 20 or 25 miles
from the coast where it
flows out of the mts. At this
place there is a hot spring
and near by are two lakes
in which the belugas are
covered with tusks and
mammoth bones. In the
bed of the stream are many
others. This native (a male) ^{the}
called these bones of the
Kiliguk wuk and said
these animals live under
the ground & come up to the
surface & when they breathe
air they die & their bones
are thus found where they
died. He said that the
Kiliguk wuk furrows out
river beds by burrowing
along near the surface

to create a deep furrow
into which the water runs
from lakes & makes a river.
He reports most of the
people about trapping
mammoths in the mts. near
the hot spring and wished
us to make a trip there, saying
it would require but a day
to go & come to return.
After we finished questioning
him he asked permission to
stop on board saying he was
afraid to go on shore in
the dark for a little boy
had been buried not long
ago at the mouth of the river
and he did not dare pass
the vicinity in the night.
He was so earnest about
the matter that he was allowed
to remain.

Sept- Kupuruk River &

13th Leave Kofebue Id

Early in the morning Prof,
Mr. & I got off in the
surf boat in a cold drizzly
weather with a fresh
wind & entered the river
passing a deserted village
of 4 houses at its mouth which
our interpreter told us had
been deserted during
last winter because a
woman had died there.
A mile & a half above the
mouth of the stream where
the water shallowed so we
could get no farther
we found the new village
of these same people
a few of which were still
here & seemed to be a poor
miserable set. We tried
to advance up the stream
to where the natives pointed

out as a deposit of bones but
the shallow water in the
crack & the dense bushes
along the bank balked us
and we were forced to
return - taking a tusk &
some pieces which our
interpreter had left there
last winter.

These people told us that
several umiaks of Cape
Prince of Wales people
left here yesterday ~~the~~
~~morning~~ on their
way home from their yearly
cruise along the coast here.
A couple of hours before
we left our anchorage
at Elephant Pt. an umiak
load of these people came
along with a large sail
made up entirely of fragments
of old worn deer skins sewed
in innumerable pieces

forming a queer looking
patchwork. I made a
sketch of this boat which
is on the opposite page.

The show is become more
and more numerous & we
saw no object in remaining
and so turned back stopping
at the deserted village where
I got a skull of a man
then on to the vessel just
as a nasty sea was making
up. As soon as we were
on board the anchor was
hoisted & we stood on
to the north west and rounded
Cape Espenberg in the eve and
stood away for Berings St.
on our way to St. Michaels
thence homeward.

The weather improved all the
day & a beautifully clear
moonlight night ensued
with a light frost breeze.

September 14th

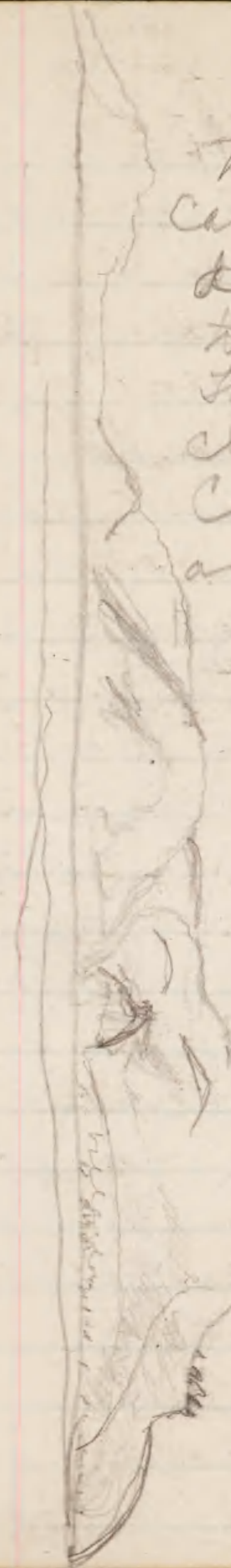
Bering's Straits

At Yarm we were passing the "ears" which is a low rounded mt. back of the coast with a pair of pillars or rock rising close together on its summit whence the name of the mts. These pillars must be very large as they are very distinct to the naked eye about 30 miles distant.

A fine clear morning with breezy air and a smooth sea. A Gyrfalcon came circling about the ship this morning.

The tops of the mts. just east of Cape Priy Wales and on east Cape. I had had fresh fallen snow on their summits. A 2 1/2 to 3 Knot current running through the Straits to the north delayed us very much so it was only about 3.30 PM

View of Cape Priy Wales from the North side.

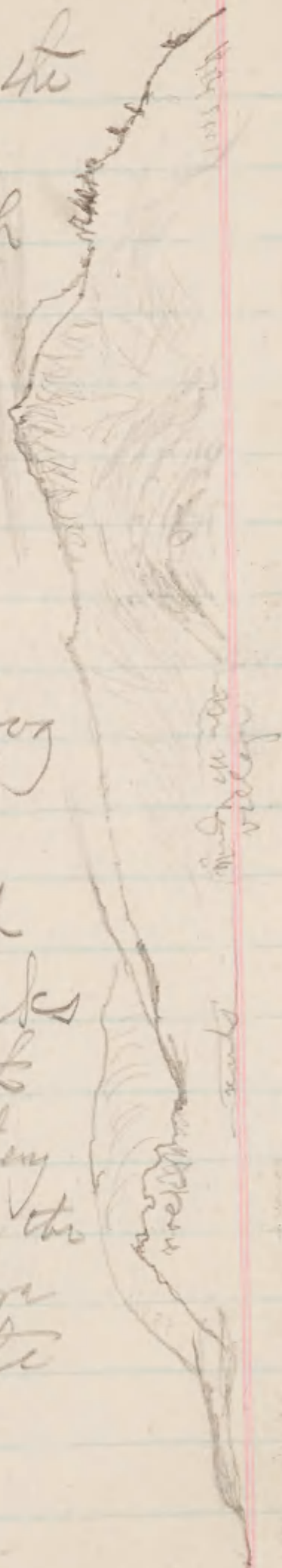


that we passed the Cape & stood on way down the coast to the St. Ignace Michael. The weather fine and clear so that East Cape & the Deconade Is. and Fairway Rock & Cape Priy Wales & King Is. were all visible as we passed through the straits. The sky had a

yellowish orange tinting under the sun with a slight smoky haze which made the weather particularly mild looking. The air was at from 48 to 49° & the water 47 to 48° in.

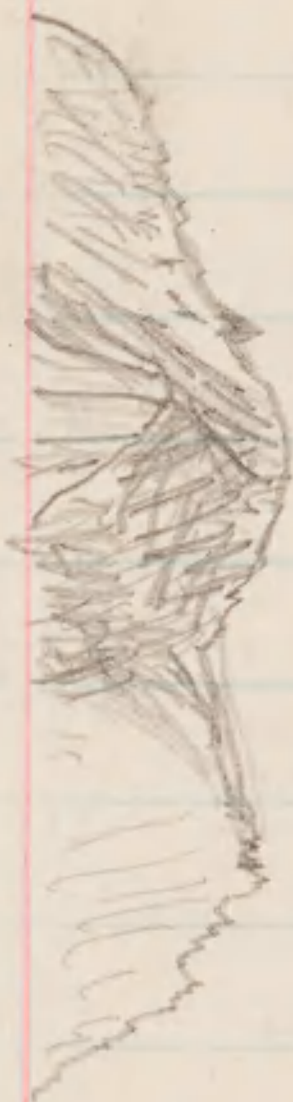
the str. - This is the
first time of six
passages through
Kesi strait this
summer that it
has been clear
enough to see
from one side to
the other & usually
we have been in fog
so to see scarcely
any distance.

Several ice last
winter snowbanks
were seen on both
sides of the str. today
one large one on the
American shore
being close to the
sea level.



Capa Prince of Wales from the A.W. 5 miles
away—

Kingda from the N.



St. Michaels Sept 15th

Fine pleasant weather all day clear cold blue sky and a light North easterly wind - At daylight we were leaving Sledge Is. astern and at 9 AM

we came to anchor off St. M. When off Stewart Island 20 to 30 miles I saw a number of flocks of Samatra fischeri and of these only one ♀ with her brood was seen. The others were males in fall plumage which is much darker than the breeding plumage.

At 9 PM we came to anchor between Egg and White Islands. A faint auroral arch with pale straw yellow curtains was seen in the north. Soon after our arrival -

St. M. - Sept. 16th

Got up anchor & went in close to the fort early in the morning & I went on shore - Found everyone well and in addition to the usual inhabitants were the people from the schooner we had seen prospecting in Galovine Bay last July when we went north. A gale cast the schooner ashore the last of August & she has just reached here after a long, rough trip around the sound. I passed the day in getting my possessions ^{still} on shore into boxes &c. ready for our departure tomorrow.

Sept. 17th 1881

Got everything on board
the "Corwin" in the
afternoon and Capt. H.
took on all the Capt. Wray
crew and after making
our adieus we went
on board and at 6 PM
steamed away out of the
harbor & I consider myself
at last started toward
civilization after a long
separation - too long a
separation for a man to
shake if he considers his
wellfare as I have learned by
experience.

The row was pleasant &
we made good time
but it seemed slow.

Sept 18

Kept on our westerly course
until 4 PM - then E to 8 PM
then S. yesterday
Made 10 knots part of
the day and a fine
fair breeze.
We expected to land on
St. Matthew Is. but the
Capt has changed his
mind and we are
going straight to St. Lawrence.

Sept. 19th

Keeping a southerly course
all day for the Seal Island
which we hope to reach
tomorrow. Last eve, the
water was filled with
phosphorescent dots which
gave a pale luminous
light as the foam dashed
from our bows & sides.
Col. Williams tells me they
have obtained a King Salmon

weighing 50 lbs. - at Golovina
Bay this past summer.
We also got two Emperor Geese
there during the summer.
the highest northern extension
of this species to my knowledge
as also of the King Salmon.

Sept 20th kept on our course
all day against a ^{strong} head
wind & rough sea. By
observations we found that
we have lost 40 miles by a
head current since
leaving St. M. up to noon.
Today, that is, the Com.
was carried ^{over} 50 miles to the
NE. of the island. It had
a N. by E. current when
she came down here
from St. Michael in September.
In the evening some
was created by a bright
phosphorescence which

showed in currents & ridges
on every side & almost
plentiful about the vessel.
Late in the eve we came too
to wait for daylight to
approach the island.


Sept. 21st

Started on at about 6 am
in a misty rain followed by
light rain. During the morning
two pairs of birds were seen
and beside a number of
fur seals were sighted
and at 11 am. we passed north-
west point of which we saw
nothing on side in spite of
the fog rain.
At 12 am. 73 men anchored
off St. Paul Village and
a boat came off with Mr.
Townsend and Capt. Moulton
and after a short talk
they were obliged to go on shore

Again we got under way as they told us it was. becoming rougher continually and we could not spare the time to wait for fair weather. At about 7 P.M. (just at dark) we sailed at Ketchikan, headed away for Unalaska. A fine breeze came over the sea. Unalaska at 10 P.M. all the country with curving pine topped waters lashed from our sides and spray flying away from the horizon.

Sept. 22nd Unalaska
Made 8 to 10 knots per hour all day and at about midday began to get glimpses of the rugged fronts of the Akutan & Unalaska Is and about 2 P.M. we opened up the mouth of

Unalaska Harbor. ~~was~~
When we drew in the head we saw numerous small whales spouting puffs of spray 15 or 20 feet into the air every few moments & looking at a distance like a rounded column of steam.



The Priest

Forming an irregular belt right across the mouth of the harbor there were thousands of young Redpolls in the black plumage - they were so young & fat that they were frequently unable to rise from the water - and nearly all were compelled to skid along on the surface before taking flight. Others had to rise and after

flapping heavily along
were forced to drop heavily
^{unwillingly} upon the water & then try
to dive but their buoyant
plumage would bring
them up like a cork
as soon as they got under
water - Scattered among
this swimming lot, Petrels
were a very few also,
Kittiwakes & Glaucous Gulls.
Up to the top the form
of the Priest (

stood out clearly and
one even saw a
the sharp angled peaks
all covered with the
rich green moss the
matted vegetation covering
their flanks & tops except
where some stunted
volcanic cone or wind swept
ridge thrust its gray &
brown ~~barren~~ summit

up like the towered wall
of a monk -

At 4.37 P.M. we anchored off
the wharf in the snug little
harbor of Unalakleet
The dark red paint of the houses
relieved here & there by the
~~white~~ light colors of the
church and a few other
places made the front of
the town appear very
pleasant backed by the
green slopes of the steeply
rising hills ~~slopes~~ with the
sparkling water of the
mountain creek just
behind.

Dist. 23

Fine pleasant day, nearly
clear but the long line of
lower cirrus extending
across the heavens & slowly
thickening as the day progressed
gave indications of an

approaching storm.
The surface of the bay
was scarcely rippled by
the faint breezes and
the sun poured its
mellow light down the
valley in the early forenoon
and animated some brightly
song sparrows of alpiza
insigne to flit about the wharf
with a stop now & then on
the projecting end of a pile
or on the roof of the warehouses
and send forth its short but
loud & not unmusical notes.
Ravens were curvetting
and whirling about croaking
drawing corks & otherwise
deporting themselves in a
ridiculously comical way.
In the P.M. I went on
shore & stopped to tea with
Mr. Smith & wife at a C.C.'s
place where I enjoyed some

very fine large creamy
huckleberries - with excellent
cream produced by the
several cows whose presence
on the hill slopes above the
place gives a pastoral air
to the vicinity. About the
doors of many of the alert
houses strut chickens and
a flock of large tame
ducks were seen preening
their feathers on the side
of the creek - Fronting the bay
& clustered about the large
houses occupied by the agents
of the fur companies are the
numerous small cottages
of the sea otter hunters -
these are neat frame houses
built by the fur companies
& either sold outright at
cost to the best hunters or
else the hunters are permitted
to occupy them rent free

with the understanding
that the occupant sell
all his catch of furs
to the company occupying
whose house he occupies.
These houses are all
a uniform dark brownish
red. The town is scattered
all along the spit.

~~At tea~~ The evening
was extremely dark and
at about 8 PM - as I
left Smith's house I
heard a deadened
report like that of a
distant cannon. Shot
followed by a rumbling
noise of 3 or 4 seconds &
a second fainter report
like the first -

Later in the eve the
same sound was heard
twice more, as at first, off in
the direction of Akoutan.

volcano.


During last
winter

Sept. 9th

Smith tells me that he
frequently heard ~~the~~
reports like those I
heard last eve, and that
they are produced by subterranean
shocks ~~at~~ in Akoutan volcano.
The last one heard on board
last eve - was accompanied
by a ~~faint~~ light but distinct
thock which we felt in the
cabin of the vessel as though
a cannon had been fired
close by -

The top of Matkuahin
volcano showed up
bars of snow in good
rocky outline yesterday
morning with a jagged
belt of snow encircling
it lower down & extending
down into the several glaciers

which ~~seem~~ ^{reach} down its
sides. A fierce rain
and wind storm swept
down through the valleys
& clefts in the hills and
descended their fury upon
the bays and whistled
through their ragged
masses of clouds
enveloping across the sky
& streaming out from the
dark tops with a dark and
appearance making the scene
gloomy & cheerless.
Spent all day on board
writing up my notes and
preparing for our start on
the home stretch.

Sept. 2nd (Sunday) 
Took a 3-holed ~~bridge~~ ^{bridge} and
a couple of Aleuts and
went up to the head of the inner
harbor the wind freshened
blowing directly in our
faces on the way up as
we were some time
in reaching the place
but at last arrived at the
head of the bay where two
or three islands were the
scene & with a clear sky
the view presenting in a
case I add a couple of
mountains first high down
the face of the rocks
snakes at pretty scene
The mts. rise in sharp
ridges along both sides
of this landlocked bay of
Captain's Harbor - This bay
like all the deep bays in
this chain of islands
is a glacier fiord.

I got out my rod & tried fishing for trout in the small stream. I soon found that by using bait (salmon roe & meat) I could only secure small fry and so I changed the hook for a "brown hackle" from my fly hook & going up a short distance dropped it in & directly ^{hooked} had a fine trout weighing about a pound. He fought with great spirit but was soon lying on the pebbles at my feet and for a couple of hours I enjoyed the sport with varying success every few minutes getting an active fellow one that would bend the slender rod almost double & make the line fairly his through the water as he

shot back & forth in the stream and when he became exhausted a little manipulation of the rod would bring him within a few feet of the pebbles. Fishing up to the foot of the cascade I then turned back and returned to the vessel with my spoil just as night shut down over the rugged hill tops. As I came up to the hooker the Cutter "Rush" came in from her cruise to the westward and made fast to the buoy.

Sept. 16th

A storm of wind rising over the mts & all the day - in the PM - the weather became milder. I spent the most of the day on board making extracts from the log.

June. Sept. 27th

When the color was dull
whitish with gold & purple
shades. The large round
eye pictured golden like
an eye-ball.
This makes the 3^d of this kind
of fish which has been taken
here in the past few years.
This one was separated
from a wharf & another
hooked upon a gaff hook
and was taken upon
the beach, and thus brought
its own fate upon itself.
In the eve which was
calm and pleasant the water
sky was filled with a strange
pale yellow light reaching
up behind the city. Which
looked in sharp outlined relief
as though drawn by pencil
while the light wind wafted
strange black masses of
fantastically bordered clouds

from the head of the bay across
the sky in a mysterious file
of silent phantasmic forms
which glided by & vanished
in the thickening shadows of
night in the east and northeast.
The light had a peculiarly
cold translucent shade
difficult to describe but
which seemed full of
mysterious shadows ready
to move out over the face
of the earth on fleet wings
at a moment's notice.

Sept. 2nd

Fine pleasant day with
masses of cumulus gray
and white cumulus and
gliding over the bridge
hanging on the wings of the
wind as though having a
joyous frolic about the
mountain tops during

The short unusual time
of sunshine -

In the morning I went
up & visited King's place
[M. F. & J. Co.] where I
spent some time very
pleasantly and then after
King gave me a King's
Kupak for the Smithsonian
institution and a fine Aleut
Kamlayka for myself we
got in his boat & sailed up
half way to the head of
Captains Bay and tried
trout fishing up a creek
flowing through the mountain
here. I followed the creek
up with varying success
and a few hundred yds. from
the bay was pleased & surprised
to find myself in a narrow
canyon whose vertical or
nearly vertical walls
rise from 100 to 300 ft or

more on both sides & with
clinging vegetation growing
luxuriantly on every fitting
rock & crevice - at the bottom
leaps & dashes the creek
hurrying madly over its
pebbly bed seaward. Just
where I turned back I came
to a beautiful little fall
of 12 to 15 feet over a ledge
barrier the stream - the effect
was very picturesque.

The trout were but little
inclined to bite & my bag
was light accordingly.
Near the bay on the small
flat near the mouth of
the stream the grass, ferns
and other plants grow so
rank that they were in a
tangled mass waist high &
offering considerable resistance
to ones progress - All along
the banks of the creek among

the rocks in damp spots
brunch and sprays of the
graceful maiden-hair.
From ornamented the rocks
Kings wife & sister-in-law
and Crooles from Kodiak &
chancing to speak of the
nations there I called them
Indians or "dekavre" the Russian
term for Indian and they
repudiated the idea of the
nations there being Indians
(a term applied commonly to Eskimos &
Mal Indians by Russians & traders)
and I said "the people there
are not Indians. they are
Aleuts." with an air of
offended dignity. She admitted
however that the Kodiakans spoke
a tongue closer to the Eskimo
of the mainland than like the
Aleuts.

Sept. 29 -

Fair weather till we when
rain set in & gusts of wind
loaded with rain & fog came
pouring down upon the little
town as though the fiends
were let loose.
In spite of this however the
Croole maids made good
their appearance at Kings
place where he had his store
cleared out & decorated with
bunting & illuminated with
~~the~~ numerous lamps & with
music produced by violin
concertina & accordion those
so inclined (which included
all hands) were enabled to
make merry & dance.
A pleasant eve was passed
& a supper served about
11 P.M. and after a concluding
dance each Cavalier took
his lady & went and escorted
her through the mist to her
home conveniently near

upon the spit.

Sept. 3rd

A shrieking ^{sk}gale with
hard showers of rain every
few moments the entire day
kept everyone weather-bound.
The gusts tore down the hills
so to make the vessel surge
heavily at their swoonings
and necessitated the
letting go of anchor.
Anchor to which the bows
which we were fast.
The appearance of the sea was
braten white with foam
and every few moments a
wholly new wave swept down
and with a curved stroke
upon the water beat up a
cloud of spray & cast it
high into the air as though
discharging a wild volée

while in quick succession
other storm spirits followed
until the bay would be covered
with flying spray.

In the midst of all this storm
could be seen the Ravens
(terrible storm imp. whirling
& circling through the flying
sea overhead. I have never
seen mentioned the sea or
these birds passing together
about in the midst of a fierce
storm. Apparently fluttering in
the wildness of the scene &
casting his black shadows over
everything as he glides about.
In calm weather he made
the role of Pantaloon in a
suit of black and circles
and tumbles around in a
jolly company like a lot of
colleagues imitating him
innumerable corks or sitting
quest chuckling notes and notes

October
1st

Gale of wind and rain continued all day and kept all hands on board most of the time.

2nd

Very pleasant day with scarcely a ripple breaking the surface of the water. Varying shades of light colored rock other across the hills lying on grassy banks or bringing out a stream from them where it gurgles & gushes down the hill side toward the bay or perchance loses itself in the placid bosom of some pretty mt. lake which lies hidden up the hillside. These lakes lie in little hollows all about on the

mt. sides & are a charming surprise to the wanderer as he makes his way toward the summit and suddenly stands on the edge of one of these pools whose surface is broken only by the gales making the summits their home or perhaps a handsomely arrayed trout springs out of the depths to capture some unwary insect or in the wilderness of his keen wild existence delicate ferns & grasses nod & quiver around the border an appropriate frame for the picture. At times the broad pinions of the Bald Eagle are mirrored in its surface or a family party of Ptarmigan troop along its borders & stop to drink of its cool waters.

I improved the sunshine to secure some photos today.

among the rest - poor
Alutians - I wished
to photograph some Alutians
but learned that they were
all celebrating the day
by being on a grand drunken
bust. While I was ashore
the 2^d Chief came up to
one of the A.C. Lbs men & said -
"I was drunk last night and
expect to get drunk again
tonight so I better go." and
told the men you wish to
have work tomorrow. The
was told to do as a shuffling away
on his errand and on the
road to a glorious state of
inebriation.

The John Kodiah (a cargo boat)
Kodiak arrived in the eve.
I learn from Mr. [?]
the Agent of that district
that vessel leaves Kodiak
for the mainland about

every two weeks all summer
2^d

Took the steam launch and
went with young Eskine a pilot
Captains motor where I secured
some fine photographs.

We had a fine view of Makushin
Volcano with the glacier
extending over a large part
of its N. & E. slopes and by
looking up an old glacier
valley. I got a very pretty
view of a charming valley
at the end of this valley.
During the time I have been
at Unalakleet I have seen

Melospiza cinerea very
very common especially about
the jutting faces of rocky
cliffs & bluffs along the shore
of the bay where they fly from
point to point or go south
about something like a
Rock Wren in its movements.

The song of this bird consists
of the sound of several rather loud
hard notes - the first two or three
being the clearest & most musical
& the others rather hoarse -
In the first part of the song there
is a slight resemblance to
the song of the common song
sparrow. The song of leucophaea
is shorter than of leucophaea.
The Albatross was
quite common about the
head of the bay on the grassy
flats & in fact wherever a
flat area near sea level
covered with luxuriant
grasses & afforded them their
favorite shelter. - Here I
invariably found a
pair or two; a young was
at a time or of permanently
mated - no song or other
note was heard.
About the hills a few of the Bald

Eagles were seen and the day
we came into the bay from
the Seal Is. several Black
Hawks were seen just a mile
or so near the islands and
several of them came circling
close about the vessel.
I had a good view of them with
the glasses & found them all
to be of the very dark virgatus
type. While near at Unalaska
birds of the same variety were
seen from time to time
in the bay water, and were
very scarce a few leucophaea
leucophaea (leucophaea) and several
Guillemots & a few leucophaea
There were a few leucophaea leucophaea
was seen but the Swallows had
long ago sought more southern
haunts. The vegetation is still
bright green except where
exposed it has a shade of
brown or yellow - no frost

there was not a trace of
any grass falling down
on even the highest peaks.
The vegetation is surprisingly
abundant upon every gentle
slope or flat and a heavy
growth of grass from 3 to 30 ft high
grows so dense that one
has difficulty in forcing his
way through. On sharp hollows
about the foot of projecting rock
large strong ferns make their
graceful forms - red in the
passing breeze or long & away
before the rush of storm wind.
The tubular stalks of the wild
Ceanothus stand up rigid & are
a mass of the umbellifer
crowns propped over the
grass - other more delicate
plants - Willow & shrubby
bushes abound in favorable
places -

After leaving the "R. R. R." at the mouth
of the river to the left & descending
the rapids & deep river winds there
by the people when he took
up the grass barrow - one old
fellow saying "If we can't have
grass we won't hunt sea urchins"
evidently considering the center
as an omission of the trading
companies - When the R. R. R.
visited the more eastern towns
of the Archipelago - i.e. Suva
and Belkovich and destroyed
the grass barrow the record
of the company was described as
indigenous - but old fellow
sawing he did not wish to
live any longer if he could
not have grass & began to
smash & rocking & furniture
until his house looked inside
as though wrecked. Since then
the "Tadiah" brings news that
a Saak man smothered.

his own barrel saying he
could do it as well as the
revenue cutter.

Oct. 4

Fog & mist in the morning
clearing a little toward
noon so that at 12 m. we got
under way & with the Sbr.
"Kodiak" in tow stood out
around the point and off
through the fogs with a smooth
sea & favoring tide so we
left the island at some
distance before dark.

Oct. 5

Made good time up to about
noon when the wind
hauled ahead and freshened
steadily until it became a strong
N.N.W. gale - The middle of the
forenoon the bowsprit & jibboom
were carried away by the wind
through the breaking of the bobstay

mist and rain falling nearly
all day especially in the P.M.
when fierce squalls came
dashing along the sea &
howling about the ships.

The wind & sea worked ahead so
that our progress became
almost nothing in the water and
much water was shipped as
the seas came rolling down
upon us.

Oct. 6th

Heavy gale with violent squalls
from E.N.W. mist and fog all
day - Heavy head sea running
making our progress very
slow and keeping the deck
covered with water most of the
time - The ward room is
flooded & the cabin has taken
a wetting once or twice as
the great green seas came
jeering over the deck with
a rush & with a loud sound

their way through the sky
light or down the companion-
way. Everyone is sea sick -
and I feel as though no inducement
would be enough to get me
on another voyage - Owing to
the crowded state of the cabin
we have to endure each others
miseries as well as our own.
It appears singular how men can
leave the comforts of life on
shore to take the miserable,
wet and disagreeable tumbling
about at sea.

The Short-tailed Albatross
put in its appearance today.


Oct. 4th

High easterly wind with high
sea still reading us off
and preventing our advance.
Light rain, fog and mist all
day - Dracks under water
half the time from the
sea. Wet - sea sick - miserable

generally - weather vile.

Oct. 8th

High east wind with heavy sea
continued - Fog, mist and
rain as yesterday our discomfort
unchanged and making no
progress to speak of on our
course - The elements seem
to have conspired to keep
us back - The "Gonys" appear
to be the only ones who enjoy
this state of affairs and they
circle - glide & float about
in the teeth of the gale the
very dense winged shadows
of the storm. Now and then
a small Petrel makes its
appearance flitting airily over
the waves like a sprite - the
Ariel of the deep - The
Gonys are nearly all young
which are seen - an adult

in light plumage is seen
for a ~~very~~ short time at
intervals as it takes a
circle about at a distance
but all which follow vessels
are in the dark plumage -
Most of them are all dark
smoky brown but scattered
among them are individuals
varying by having a band of white
feathers around the rump at
base of tail. All have a
more or less marked
band of white surrounding the
base of bill & those with white
on tail have white spot on
under each eye. 

Oct. 9th

Heavy E. N. E. gale & sea still
holding us - fierce squalls of
rain beating like shot
against the glass - but
seas sweeping the deck

and misery continued without
any material progress on our
course -

Oct. 10th

Easterly wind blowing a heavy
gale with heavy squalls of
rain - Very high sea & much
water coming aboard sometimes
hiding half the ship in spray
and washing the decks fore
and aft -

Rudder ropes parted in the
afternoon & a new set had
to be put on - Laid to
nearly all day with the
vessel lurching about &
everything in the cabin as
for the past week executing
a devil's dance -

Oct. 11th

E. S. E. gale falling in P.M. -
Head sea still running high
misty rain at intervals

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Through a break in the clouds in the morning we got a glimpse of the blue sky in which were floating small cottony patches of Calm cirrus clouds. Our raised expectations however were dashed in the afternoon by the wind rising from its old quarters more.

Oct. 12

Wind a fresh ESE breeze. Cloudy all day & heavy. The weather forces us to keep off to the E by N. toward Vancouver Is. where we will have to put in for more coal unless we get more favorable weather before long.
The barometer rising - 30.3 in.

Oct. 13th

Fresh breeze from SE x E, to E, a moderate head sea and cloudy all day - Holding on our course toward Puget Is. -

Oct. 14th

Wind easterly 20- and var. in
var. to calm. A long regular
swell rolls in from the
SW. Cloudy and pleasant
all day. For the past few
days a phosphorescence has
been visible in the water
& most marked tonight
when a long wake of light
trailed out astern and
broke in creamy foam
from the bow.

A solitary duck was
seen for a short time
about noon as it took
a single circuit then away again
standing on our course
again.

Sat. Oct. 15th

Sunday Oct. 16th
mist and rain nearly
all day with extremely
light to calm wind.
A regular swell & rather
heavy fog from W. in eve.
A flock of large snipe
or plovers were seen
at a distance today
about noon.

Monday Oct. 17th
Cloudy weather with
mist and rain all day.
Strongly wind rising to
a gale in middle of day
with falling in eve.
Steaming steadily on our
course.

Tues. Oct. 18th

Mild weather and southerly
westerly fresh wind all day
accompanied by occasional
rain. Showers of rain.

Made fair time and we
are drawing in close
to the coast. In the
evening much more phosphorescence
was visible upon the
sea than had been seen
before since leaving the
Aleutian Is.

Wed. Oct. 19th

The morning opened bright &
pleasant with the sun out at
intervals. About 8 am we
passed a schooner bound up
the coast and a little later
saw the smoke of a steamer
off on the port bow. This
was bound down the coast
evidently as the smoke gradually
drew ahead of us we were
the distance.

Birds seen as follows:

A small Black Petrel with
white rump without the rest.

Commodore leucocoma (Leach's
Petrel) also a pair of terns
like *F. tenuirostris*.

~~and~~ all the way from the Aleutian
Is to 8 to 10 miles scarcely
a day passed by 6 or 7 specimens
of a white-bellied Petrel
abundant close to the coast
of *Oceanodroma hooyi* were
seen.

This morning several gulls
(*L. glaucocephalus*) were seen.
From time to time -
Booby *Diomedea brachyptera*
still follows us but less
numerous than before we
came so near shore.
In the afternoon a single
Cormorant (*L. delaphe*) came
circling about and a pair
of *Murrets* were seen
on the water a short distance
away.

Every hour or so all day a large
Albatross a fourth larger
than the ~~she~~ Gony and
of a uniform dusky brown
than the latter except for a
white ring at base of bill and
the pale waxy yellowish of
the bill which shows
conspicuously at a distance.
This is the ~~young~~ of the same
large species is seen about

The Aleutian Is.
Several *bernardus* seen
in P.M.

Several vessels were
seen during the day & left
in P.M. about 4.30 P.M.
When a dense fog set
down.

A large black species
of Petrel which was seen
a number of times during
the trip down can be no
other but *Cymochora melanica*.

→ This is probably *Fulmarus giganteus*

and a few Fork tailed
Petrels were seen near
(within a few hundred miles)
The Aleutian Is.
One or two other species
were seen at too
great a distance to get
an idea of their identity
~~first before the fog set~~

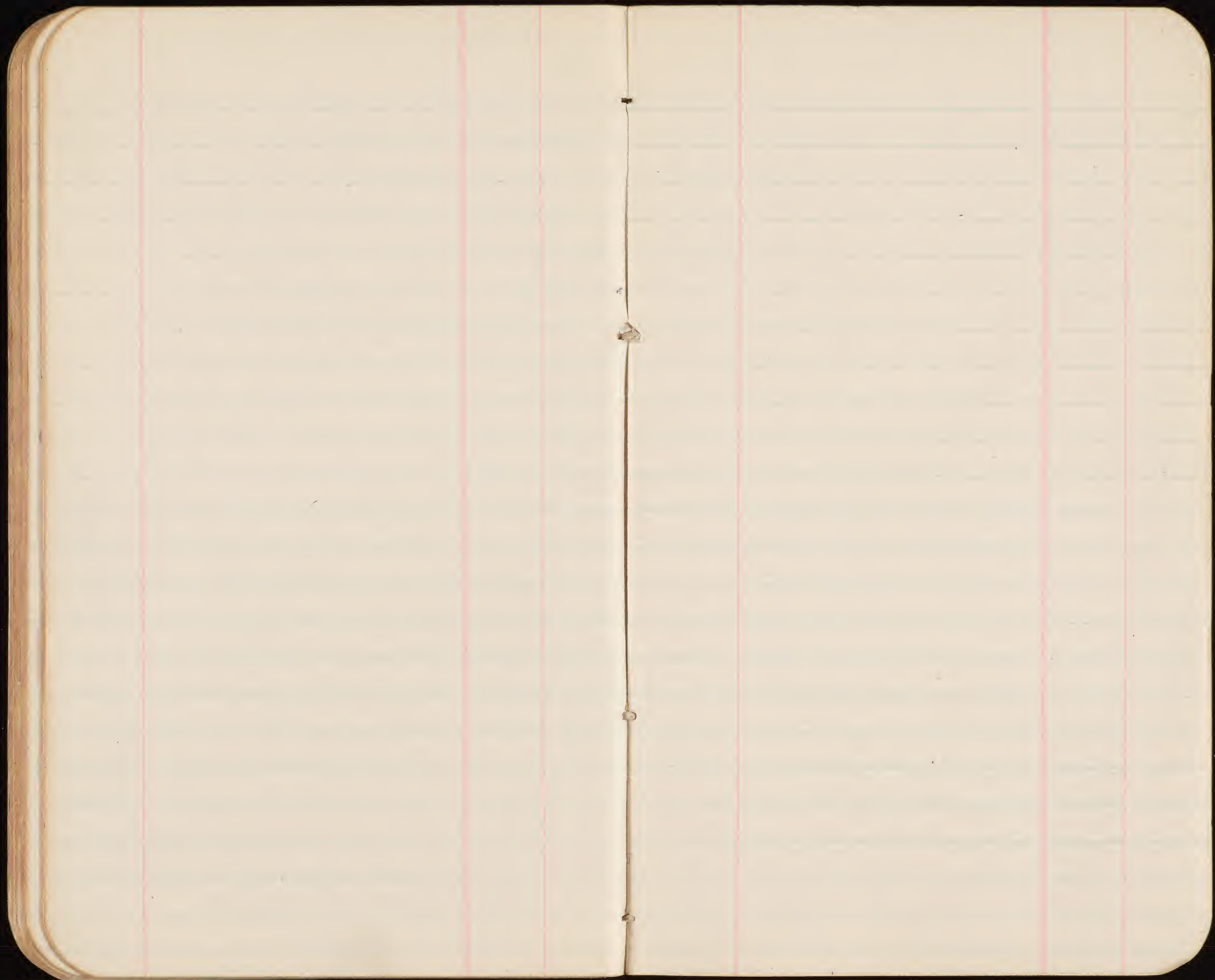
~~down in the PM~~

A dense fog came on in the even & lasted from just before 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM - when it broke away - we got into 2-3 fathoms of water off Humboldt Bay & then steamed out around Cape Mendocino light, which we saw very distinctly after the fog lifted, and kept on our course to the Strait night - The water was filled with phosphorescent animals $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter which showed more brilliantly than I have ever seen before. The curving swell which was thrown off by the bow appeared as a thickly with purple dots of rich light which at times flashed out in great beauty & richness -

The stars shined down a clear and gentle rain on byrhead and puppets showed conspicuously brilliant high above Orion -

Thursday Oct. 2nd

The after remained clear until the middle of the day and we could see the Coast at a distance of a few miles its hills crowned with a heavy growth of Redwood whose rounded tops could be made out with the naked eye and here & there a column of smoke rising in the calm atmosphere showed where a mill or settlement was located. Later a dense fog shut down which hid everything for the rest of the day -



The summer of 1880 the
Corwin travelled over 600 miles
inside the circle and
the present (1881) season
she has made nearly 1000 miles
therein. - 12 over 1000 at the

summits found in the entire
outline of ice ^{mass}

When the party was landed
off Kolimukhin Is. - it was
on the 2^d of June a
violent snow storm. - The
same day a short time after
midnight in so dark the
rubber was carried away
at 4 P.M. - they were landed
on a shore belt of heavy ice
15 to 20 miles wide.
The ice was about 30 ft high
along edge of pack. - Butcher
Briggs & Skelton boat the first
to enter the others, the single

and the dog on the K. boat
the sleds - etc

The summer of 1880 the
Corwin travelled over 600 miles
inside the Circle and
the present (1881) season
she has made nearly 1000 miles
therein. - 12 or 13 miles a

day. - found in the Arctic
sublime of ice ^{pack} ~~formation~~

When the party was landed
off Colimichin Is. - it was
on the 2nd of June, a
violent snow storm. - The
same day a short time after
midnight in early a.m. the
sudden was earned snow
at 4 P.M. - they were landed
on a shore belt of heavy ice
10 to 20 miles wide -
The ice was about 20 ft
a long edge of pack - Both
Briggs & Skelton at the first
turning the others; the

had the dogs on the Rink
to sleds. -

Ceremony observed at the
killing of the first Walrus in
spring among the Coast Chukchi
at Cape Walatarran Taptan
Village (near Cape Sledge) as described
by Lt. Reynolds. The ceremony
took place the first of June.
Several boats (bidarra) went out
among the floating ice when the
hoarse or notes of the bulls were
first heard. All the men taking part.
They were gone until midnight
& returned successful. The
flesh of the walrus was divided
pro rata among all the hunters
and thus equally throughout the
village except that the owner of
the boat killing the animal was
entitled to the head and skin.
After the division all gathered in the
chief's hut & the Walrus head was placed
in the centre & the chief's youngest
son took 3 pieces each of reindeer
fat and ^{seal} meat & placed them
in the Walrus' mouth. Three other
pieces were then taken and cast

in different directions.
This was followed by a speech
from the Chief who then took
five pieces each of the fat & meat
and going, attended by the people
to the meat cache outside
cast four of the pieces to
the 4 points of the compass
& the fifth piece was cast down
into the centre of the cache ^{through}
the "skylight".

Everyone was then given a piece
of fat & of meat to eat on the
spot including the "Corwin"
people and the ceremony
was at an end.

Reindeer milk is cooked
and eaten and also the
bulbous root of a some
plant.

11 NW (true) Current to
nearly a knot an hour
along Coast of Siberia
NW. of Cape Wankarem
Aug. 15th

Aug. 18 - at Pt. Barrow Lat. 70.21
Long. 178.55 -
current NW. 1 1/2 knots per hour

Aug. 17 - at Pt. Barrow
ENR Current around the
Point 1 3/4 knots per hour

Current of 30 fms E 3/4 N (true) along
coast to N. of Pt. Hope Aug. 19 (noon)
to 20th (noon)

